

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 remain in the application. The Specification was amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 7 was amended. Support for the amendment may be found on page 4, lines 8-9, and throughout the Specification of the present application. Applicant asserts that no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the Application is hereby requested

Claim Rejections

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Cruikshank (US 6829315).

Cruikshank discloses a system in which an encoder (item 107) converts the twelve 8-bit parallel channels into twelve corresponding 10-bit parallel channels and then inserts a control character, such as a comma, to delimit each header in response to a control signal from a demultiplexer (item 104). [Cruikshank, col. 2, ll. 41-46, *see also*, col. 4, ll. 11-55] It should be noted that the control character is inserted in response to a control signal from a demultiplexer and that there is no disclosure of the control character being substituted for a parallel synchronization packet. Presumably, the system disclosed in Cruikshank would generate a serial stream that would include both the control character and the parallel synchronization packet embedded therein. This would add overhead both to the serialization side and the deserialization side.

In contrast, the independent claims of the present application (Claims 1 and 7) each recite a system in which the “parallel synchronization packet is replaced by the synchronization character.” (As recited in Claim 1) Replacing the parallel synchronization packet with the synchronization character, as recited in Claims 1 and 7, offers the advantage over Cruikshank of reducing both serialization and deserialization overhead.

Cruikshank does not disclose, nor does it teach or suggest, the limitation of the

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synchronization packet being replaced by the synchronization character, as recited in Claims 1 and 7. Because of the lack of this limitation in Cruikshank, these claims are not anticipated.

Therefore, Applicant believes that this rejection, as applied to Claims 1 and 7, has been overcome.

Because Claims 2-6 and 8-11 depend from Claims 1 and 7, respectively, Applicant believes that this rejection has been overcome with respect to these claims as well. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be allowed.

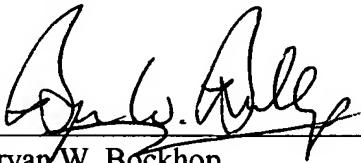
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CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that the rejections have been overcome for the reasons recited above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that all remaining claims be allowed and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued.

No addition fees are believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including any necessary extensions of time, which are hereby requested, to Deposit Account No. 503535.

11/09/2005
Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being placed in the U.S. Mail on the date written below with sufficient postage to ensure its delivery to the Commissioner for Patents at the address listed above.


Bryan W. Bockhop

11/09/2005
Date